

Application No.: 09/781,986  
Amendment dated April 4, 2006  
Supplemental Amendment in Response to Final Rejection

2

Docket No.: 59915(51719)

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 19-22 and 34-44 without prejudice. Please amend claims 1 and 23 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A collapsible container comprises:
  - a) first and second sidewalls pivotally connected to a base, and first and second end walls pivotally connected to said base, said first sidewall includes at least one latching member that cooperates with a latching member of said first end wall to secure said first sidewall and said first end wall together when said first sidewall and said first end wall are in upright positions;
  - b) a wall locking system that includes a plurality of first wall locking members on said first sidewall and at least one second wall locking member on said first end wall, said second wall locking member cooperates with said first wall locking members to prevent the first sidewall from moving relative to said first end wall in at least one direction when the first sidewall and first end wall are in upright positions; and
  - c) a wall alignment system that includes a first member extending from a first of said sidewalls and end walls when said sidewalls and end walls are in a substantially upright position and a second member extending in a substantially first direction from a second of said sidewalls and end walls, wherein said first member of said wall alignment system [is] extends along an inwardly facing surface of said first of said sidewalls and end walls in a second direction substantially orthogonal to the first direction, such that said first member cooperates with said second member as the second of said sidewalls and end walls pivots to an upright position to align adjacent sidewalls and end walls before said sidewalls and end walls achieve a completely upright position aligning the first wall locking members with the second wall locking members.

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Application No.: 09/781,986  
Amendment dated April 4, 2006  
Supplemental Amendment in Response to Final Rejection

3

Docket No.: 59915(51719)

2. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 1 wherein said first member of said alignment system includes a spur that extends in a direction away from an outer side edge of said one of said sidewalls, and said second member of said alignment system includes a pair of receiving members that extend in a direction away from a face of said one of said end walls, said receiving members form an opening for slidably receiving said first member when said first sidewall and said first end wall are moved to the upright position.

3. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 2 wherein said receiving members extend along a portion of said one of said end walls and form a spur receiving groove having a tapered receiving end.

4. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 2 wherein said one of said sidewalls is said first sidewall, and wherein said spur is positioned along the height of the said first sidewall between adjacent first wall locking members.

5. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 1 wherein said sidewalls and end walls each include a plurality of latching members.

6. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 5 wherein said first sidewall latching member includes a plate extending along the length of said first sidewall in the direction of said first end wall.

7. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 5 wherein said first end wall latching member includes a biased panel that deflects away from an interior of the container under pressure.

8. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 7 wherein said biased panel is connected to said first end wall at a flexible hinge.

9. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 7 wherein said inner surface of said panel is contoured so that it includes a first region and a second region that extend different depths into the interior of the container.

298740\_1.DOC

Application No.: 09/781,986

4

Docket No.: 59915(51719)

Amendment dated April 4, 2006

Supplemental Amendment in Response to Final Rejection

10. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 7 further including a deformation prevention member that extends between an outer rear surface of said biased panel and an outer rear surface of said first end wall for limiting the distance that the biased panel can deflect.

11. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 1 wherein the first end wall latching member includes a biased panel that deflects away from an interior of the container under pressure.

12. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 11 further including a deformation prevention member that extends between a rear surface of said biased panel and a rear surface of said first end wall for limiting the distance that the biased panel can deflect.

13. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 1 wherein said at least one second wall locking member is received between two of said first wall locking members.

14. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 13 wherein said at least one second wall locking member includes a plurality of second wall locking members.

15. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 1 wherein said wall locking system forms dovetail joints at corners of said container.

16. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 1 wherein said container is stackable.

17. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 16 wherein an upper surface of the sidewalls and end walls include stacking tabs for mating with a bottom surface of another container.

18. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 17 wherein a lower surface of said base includes a plurality of receiving pockets positioned about its periphery for receiving stacking tabs from another container.

296740\_1.DOC

Application No.: 09/781,986  
Amendment dated April 4, 2006  
Supplemental Amendment in Response to Final Rejection

5

Docket No.: 59915(51719)

Claims 19-22 (canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A collapsible container comprising:

- a) a base, a plurality of sidewalls and a plurality of end walls, said sidewalls and end walls being secured to said base so that said sidewalls and end walls can move relative to said base and each other, one of said sidewalls cooperating with one of said end walls to form a corner of said container when positioned upright;
- b) a wall alignment system including a first member extending in a first direction from a face of one of said one sidewall and one end wall and at least one receiving member extending along an interior face of the other of said one sidewall and said one end wall and [toward] facing an interior of said collapsible container, said receiving member forming an opening extending in a second direction, substantially orthogonal to the first direction, along the interior face of said other of said one sidewall and one end wall for slidably receiving said first member when said one sidewall and said one end wall are being moved to an upright position; and
- c) a latching system having a first latching member on said one sidewall and a second latching member on said one end wall, wherein said latching members cooperate to secure the one sidewall and one end wall together as said corner is formed.

24. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 23 further comprising a locking system for locking said sidewalls to the cooperating end walls, said locking system including a first set of locking members on said sidewalls that mate with a second set of locking members on said end walls for securely holding the walls in a fixed relationship.

25. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 24 wherein the locking members on each of said sidewalls are received between a pair of the locking members on a respective cooperating end wall.

296740\_1.DOC

Application No.: 09/781,986  
Amendment dated April 4, 2006  
Supplemental Amendment in Response to Final Rejection

6

Docket No.: 59915(51719)

26. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 23 wherein said first latching member includes a plate extending along the length of said one sidewall in the direction of said one end wall.

27. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 26 wherein said second latching member includes a biased panel that deflects away from an interior of the container under pressure.

28. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 27 wherein said biased panel is connected to said one end wall at a flexible hinge.

29. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 27 further including a deformation prevention member that extends between a rear surface of said biased panel and a rear surface of said one end wall for limiting the distance that the biased panel can deflect.

30. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 23 wherein the first latching member includes a biased panel that deflects under pressure away from an interior of the container, and a deformation prevention member that extends between a rear surface of said biased panel and a rear surface of said one end wall.

31. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 23 wherein said first member of said alignment system includes a spur; and said receiving members extend along a portion of said one of said end walls and form a spur receiving groove having a tapered receiving end.

32. (Original) The collapsible container according to claim 23 wherein said container is stackable.

33. (Currently Amended) The collapsible container according to claim [33] 32, wherein an upper surface of the sidewalls and end walls include stacking tabs for mating with a bottom surface of another container.

34. (Currently Amended) The collapsible container according to claim [34] 33, wherein a lower surface of said base includes a plurality of receiving pockets positioned about its periphery for receiving stacking tabs from another container.

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Application No.: 09/781,986

7

Docket No.: 59915(51719)

Amendment dated April 4, 2006

Supplemental Amendment in Response to Final Rejection

Claims 35-44 (canceled)

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